HANDS THROWN OUT OF EMPLOYMENT FROM THE COCHIN PORT

179. Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):*

(*a*) Will Government be pleased to ascertain from the Cochin Port Authorities how many semi-skilled and skilled men have been thrown out of employment from the Cochin Port on account of the war having been terminated;

(*b*) will they be pleased to inform the House how many of these have been employed elsewhere?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) 2,600 skilled and 640 semi-skilled labourers have been disbanded up to 31st October 1945 consequent on the stoppage of defence work on cessation of hostilities.

(*b*) Government have no information.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* May I know whether the Labour Exchange has got any information about these people who have been discharged?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* This information was collected from the Port Authorities.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* May I know whether these people have put in petition to the Labour Exchange?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I want notice.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* May I know whether any effort has been made by the Labour Exchange to procure jobs for these people.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* I want notice.

LABOUR STRENGTH IN COCHIN PORT

180. Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the labour strength employed in the Cochin Port on 1st of August 1945;

(*b*) how many of them (men and women separately) were since discharged;

(*c*) has the Government been able to find alternative employment for those who have been thrown out of employment from the Cochin Port; if so, for how many, in what way?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) 16,000.

(*b*) Men retrenched between 1st August 1945 and 31st October 1945=7,770.
Women retrenched between do. do. =3,270.

(*c*) Everything possible is being done to provide work for as many labourers as possible by taking up the Public Works Schemes (road, irrigation, etc.); for execution urgently.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* Are these people unskilled?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Both skilled and unskilled. I have given it in answer to the previous question.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* These are all unskilled?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* May be.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ടി. ജേക്കബ്ബ്: ഇങ്ങിനെയുള്ള കാരണങ്ങൾകൊണ്ടാണ് പാറക്കടവിൽ ഗവൺമെണ്ട് പണിയിപ്പിക്കുന്ന കുലിക്കാരുടെ കൂലി കുറച്ചിട്ടുള്ളത്?

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. ജെ. മാത്യു: പബ്ലിക്ക വർക്സ് ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെണ്ടിൽ കൂലി കുറച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട് എന്നാണൊ പറയുന്നത്?

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ടി. ജേക്കബ്ബ്: തുടക്കം കൊടുത്തിരുന്നതിൽനിന്നു ഉദ്ദേശം നൂറു ആളുകൾക്കു വേണ്ടി വീതം കുറച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

Mr. President: Is the Hon'ble Member putting a question about the Harbour labour? I understood him to be putting a question about the labour in the Public Works Department.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* Are the Government aware that the wages in the country have gone down?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* It is likely.

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* May I know whether the Government themselves cut down the wages?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Is the Hon'ble Member asking about P.W.D. rates?

Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated):* Are there any complaints that the Public Works Department have reduced the wages?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly